THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) Rs. 65 crores was allotted to the NSFDC for the year 1995-96 by the Ministry.

(b) There is no State-wise allocation made by the Ministry of Welfare. However, NSFDC had sanctioned Rs. 321.48 lakhs and disbursed Rs. 385.88 lakhs to Kerala during 1995-96.

(c) Rs. 22.50 lakhs was disbursed for utilisation in the state of Kerala by NSFDC for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes.

Losses in Paradeep Phosphate Limited

2566. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) the reasons for the loss incurred by the Paradeep Phosphate Limited in Orissa,

(b) the amount of loss incurred in 1995-96, and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to make it a profitable public undertaking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) (a) and (b). Paradeep Phosphates Limited has earned a net profit of Rs. 2.24 crore during the year 1995-96.

(c) Does not arise.

Cutting of Bomboos

2567. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any complaint regarding large scale cutting of the bamboos by a Paper Mill in the Shoolpaneshwar Sanctuary area located on the river Narmada;

(b) if so, the basic policy of the Government regarding cutting of bamboos or other trees in the sanctuary areas;

(c) whether an enquiry has been conducted into the matter; and

(d) if not, the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under Section 33 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 the State Chief Wildlife Warden may take such measures within the sanctuary areas as he may consider necessary, in the interests of wildlife for the improvement of any habitat. This may include cutting of bamboos or other trees. The Chief Wildlife Warden of Gujarat has reported that selective removal of the dense bamboo growth in the Shoolpaneshwar Sanctuary is desirable in the overall interest of improving the habitat and biodiversity of the sanctuary.

(c) and (d). The State Cheif Wildlife Warden has informed that in response to a Court case the Gujarat High Court had appointed a Court Commission which has submitted its enquiry report to the Court. In two other cases the Gujarat High Court had directed the C.B.I. and also the Gujarat Forest Department to enquire into the matter. The Forest Department has submitted its report to the High Court. Further, in a Special Leave Petition the Supreme Court has ordered the Division Bench of the Gujarat High Court to examine the grievances of the petitioners, i.e. the State of Gujarat and Central Pulp Mill. The matter is subjudice before the Gujarat High Court.

[Translation]

P.P.C.L. Fertilizer Factory

2568. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the fertilizers produced from Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited, fertilizers factory in Bihar are not provided to the local farmers;

(b) whether the fertilizers produced from the said factory are sold to other States only;

(c) if so, the details in this regard, and

(d) whether the Government shall make available the fertilizers of the said factory to the local farmers through the retail shops at reasonable rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c). The unit of Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Ltd. (PPCL) located at Amjhore in Bihar is engaged in the production of Single Super Phosphate (SSP) fertiliser. During 1993-94 to 1995-96, 54—66% of the total sales were in Bihar itself. Supplies to neighbouring States have also been undertaken but after meeting the requirements of Bihar.

(d) SSP is a decontrolled fertiliser. PPCL, is equipped to make it available to farmers of Bihar through their distribution network at the price notified by the Government of Bihar.

[English]

Taj Mahal

2569. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether industries in Agra and Shikohabad are still emitting pollution to damage the Taj Mahal and violating norms and rules set by the Government; and

(b) if so, the steps taken against defaulting industries?